

82D CONGRESS
1st Session

SENATE

REPORT
No. 115

EXTENDING THE TIME FOR INVESTIGATION OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY, THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE, DOMESTIC LAND AND WATER TRANSPORTATION, AND RADIO, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS

FEBRUARY 19 (legislative day, JANUARY 29), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HAYDEN, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. Res. 55]

The Committee on Rules and Administration, to whom was referred the resolution (S. Res. 55) extending the time for investigation of problems relating to the airline industry, the United States merchant marine, domestic land and water transportation, and radio, telegraph, and telephone communications, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an additional amendment and recommend that it be agreed to by the Senate.

A letter from the chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce explaining the aims and purposes of the resolution (S. Res. 55) is as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
February 9, 1951.

Hon. CARL HAYDEN,

*Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR CHAIRMAN HAYDEN: The purpose of Senate Resolution 55 is to authorize the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to complete its studies of the transportation and communications matters which it has undertaken. The committee has handled its finances with great care and does not request any additional funds in asking for this extension. We have not run out of funds, but we are about to run out of time. Senate Resolution 55 extends the time to January 31, 1952.

Senate Resolution 50 of the Eighty-first Congress, agreed to April 11, 1949, directed the committee to make comprehensive studies and investigations of matters pertaining to the airline industry, the United States merchant marine, domestic land and water transportation, and radio, telegraph, and telephone communications.

2 EXTEND TIME FOR INVESTIGATION OF AMERICAN INDUSTRIES

The committee has made much progress. The Merchant Marine Subcommittee submitted a detailed report on August 30 (S. Rept. 2494). Most of its extra work has been completed. The Subcommittee on Domestic Land and Water Transportation has completed one phase of sweeping hearings comprising more than 1,400 pages of testimony and exhibits, and the staff is now engaged in the preparation of legislation on which the second phase of hearings will be held. Since completing its aviation hearings, the committee has been devoting its time and efforts to the so-called air-mail subsidy question. It now has two private engineering firms making field surveys and audits under the supervision and direction of the committee's staff. The committee is pressing these contracting firms to complete their work at the earliest possible date so that legislation may be prepared and introduced during the present session. The Communications Subcommittee under Senator McFarland has been continuing its study of the problem of communication carriers in the international field, including conferences with the carriers aimed at a merger or consolidation to strengthen American communications in the event of war, and including a study of the current situation with respect to long-distance interstate telephone-toll rates and local exchange and intrastate rates with a view to ascertaining the desirability of enacting legislation in this field. The subcommittee also plans to continue its analysis of radio frequency use by Government agencies.

The committee's studies have been complicated and made more difficult by reason of the national emergency resulting from the Korean conflict, and new problems resulting from the national-defense effort are arising almost daily.

At the peak of its program the committee had 19 temporary employees. There has been a gradual reduction in force, and there are only seven such employees at the present time.

In view of the new problems which have arisen, particularly as a result of the international situation, additional time is necessary for the committee's over-all studies. However, as a result of the reduction in committee personnel from 19 employees to 7 employees, it is felt that additional funds will not be necessary.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED. C. JOHNSON, *Chairman.*

An estimated budget submitted by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and approved by the Committee on Rules and Administration is as follows:

Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce proposed budget under S. Res. 55

Miscellaneous expense: Reporters (cost of transcript), office supplies, etc.....	\$2, 000
Personnel (12-month basis):	
1 lawyer at \$8,438.....	\$8. 438
1 research assistant at \$5,197.....	5, 197
5 clerk-stenographers at \$3,198 to \$4,154.....	19, 031
Total.....	32, 666
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Grand total.....	34, 666
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Unexpended balance in committee's fund under S. Res. 50 (as continued by S. Res. 308, 81st Cong.), approximately..... 34, 000

The Committee on Rules and Administration has further amended the resolution (S. Res. 55) in the following manner:

On line 6, strike out the date "January 31, 1952" and insert in lieu thereof the date "June 30, 1951".